

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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DEPARTMENT PASS TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

E. O. 11652: - N/A

TAGS: SENV, IN

SUBJECT: REORGANIZATION OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND COORDINATION

1. PROFESSOR B. D. NAG CHAUDHURI, VICE CHANCELLOR OF JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY, HAS BEEN NAMED BY THE PRIME MINISTER AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND COORDINATION. DR. NAG CHAUDHURI WAS ALSO APPOINTED LAST WEEK AS CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE INDO-US JOINT SUBCOMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE WAS CREATED IN APRIL 1972 AND HAS BEEN WITHOUT A LEADER SINCE THE DEATH OF ITS DYNAMIC CHAIRMAN, PITAMBER PANT, IN EARLY 1973. THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY INACTIVE SINCE THAT TIME. A SMALL UNIT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (DOST) HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND WRITING IMPACT STATEMENTS. WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF NAG CHAUDHURI AND THE REPLACEMENT OF CERTAIN OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, THE PRIME MINISTER IS PUMPING NEW LIFE INTO AN AREA THAT

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HAS BEEN NEGLECTED SINCE THE UN ENVIRONMENTAL CONGRESS IN

1972.

2. THE MAJOR PROBLEM THE COMMITTEE AND SECRETARIAT WILL BE FACING IS THE LACK OF FUNDS TO INSTITUTE NEW ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS. NAG CHAUDHURI IS IN FAVOR OF APPOINTING A FULL TIME EXECUTIVE SECRETARY WHO WOULD BE AT THE JOINT SECRETARY LEVEL IN THE GOI, AND WOULD DIRECT AN ENLARGED ENVIRONMENTAL SECRETARIAT LOCATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY. HE FEELS THE COMMITTEE CAN DEVELOP POLICY, PLANS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, BUT IT WILL NECESSARILY BE THE WORK OF A STRONG SECRETARIAT TO CARRY OUT THE POLICY AND DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS. ONE OF THE FIRST TIEMS OF BUSINESS WILL BE TO DUST OFF THE WATER POLLUTION AND MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AND PUSH IT THROUGH THE PARLIAMENT AND TO BEGIN ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN AIR POLLUTION ACT.

3. NAG CHAUDHURI WOULD FAVOR EXPANDED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ENVIRONMENTAL SECRETARIAT DOST AND THE US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY. THERE HAS BEEN A PROGRAM OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS BETWEEN THESE TWO AGENCIES. SO FAR THE EXCHANGE HAS MOSTLY BEEN ON THE US SIDE, BUT THIS HAS BEEN DUE TO LACK OF STAFF ON THE INDIAN SIDE RATHER THAN LACK OF INTEREST.

4. THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE:

COMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL
PLANNING & COORDINATION

1. DR. B. D. NAG CHAUDHURI
VICE CHANCELLOR JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY
2. SHRI ZAFAR FUTEHALLY
THE WORLD WILDLIFE FUND
269, RAJMAHAL VILAS EXTENSION
BANGALORE-560006
3. DR. A. K. GANGULI, DIRECTOR
CHEMICAL GROUP, BHABHA ATOMIC RESEARCH CENTRE
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4. DR. B. P. PAL, FELLOW ROYAL SOCIETY OF SURGEONS (FRS)
P-11, HAUS KHAS, NEW DELHI
5. DR. LAVRAJ KUMAR, ADVISER
PLANNING COMMISSION
NEW DELHI

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BOMBAY

6. DR. A. RAMACHANDRAN, SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (DOST)
NEW DELHI

7. DR. P. KOTESWARAN,
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF OBSERVATORIES
INDIAN METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT
MINISTRY OF TOURISM & CIVIL AVIATION
NEW DELHI

8. PROFESSOR R. MISRA
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY
BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY
BANARAS

9. PROFESSOR S. KRISHNASWAMY, HEAD
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE
MADURAI UNIVERSITY, MADURAI

10. DR. S. Z. QASIM, DIRECTOR
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY
PANANJI, GOA

11. SHRI MOND. MIAN KHAN
MEMBER SECRETARY
CENTRAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
NEW DELHI

12. SHRI Y. K. MURTHY, CHAIRMAN
CENTRAL WATER COMMISSION
BIKANER HOUSE
NEW DELHI

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13. DR. N. MAJUMDER, DIRECTOR
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING
RESEARCH INSTITUTE
NAGPUR

14. DR. J. R. SHRIVASTAV
DIRECTOR-GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES
NIRMAN BHAWAN
NEW DELHI

15. SHRI V. KRISHNAMURTHY, CHAIRMAN
BHARAT HEAVY ELECTRICALS LTD
18 KASTURBA GANDHI MARG
HINDUSTAN TIMES HOUSE

NEW DELHI

16. J. B. D'SOUZA, MANAGING DIRECTOR
HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
BLOCK 12A, JAMNAGAR HOUSE
NEW DELHI

17. SHRI K. L. LAHIRI
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF FORESTS
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
NEW DELHI

18. SHRI K. BIRLA, PRESIDENT
FEDERATION OF INDIAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
& INDUSTRY
FEDERATION HOUSE
TANSEN MARG, NEW DELHI

19. SHRI P. J. FERNANDES
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
BUREAU OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
NAYUR BHAVAN, CONNAUGHT PLACE
NEW DELHI

20. SHRI B. B. VOHRA
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY
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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
NEW DELHI
MOYNIHAN

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